

**§ 79.22 Criteria for eligibility for claims relating to certain specified diseases contracted after exposure in an affected area (“downwinders”).**

To establish eligibility for compensation under this subpart, a claimant or eligible surviving beneficiary must establish each of the following:

(a)(1) That the claimant was physically present at any place within the affected area for a period of at least two years (24 consecutive or cumulative months) during the period beginning on January 21, 1951, and ending on October 31, 1958; or

(2) That the claimant was physically present at any place within the affected area for the entire, continuous period beginning on June 30, 1962, and ending on July 31, 1962; and

(b) That after such period of physical presence the claimant contracted one of the following specified compensable diseases:

(1) Leukemia (other than chronic lymphocytic leukemia), provided that:

(i) The claimant’s initial exposure occurred after the age of 20; and

(ii) The onset of the disease occurred at least two years after first exposure;

(2) Multiple myeloma, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(3) Lymphomas, other than Hodgkin’s disease, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(4) Primary cancer of the thyroid, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(5) Primary cancer of the male or female breast, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(6) Primary cancer of the esophagus, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(7) Primary cancer of the stomach, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(8) Primary cancer of the pharynx, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(9) Primary cancer of the small intestine, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(10) Primary cancer of the pancreas, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(11) Primary cancer of the bile ducts, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(12) Primary cancer of the gallbladder, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(13) Primary cancer of the salivary gland, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(14) Primary cancer of the urinary bladder, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(15) Primary cancer of the brain, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(16) Primary cancer of the colon, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(17) Primary cancer of the ovary, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(18) Primary cancer of the liver, provided,

(i) Onset occurred at least five years after first exposure;

(ii) There is no indication of the presence of hepatitis B; and

(iii) There is no indication of the presence of cirrhosis; or

(19) Primary cancer of the lung, provided onset occurred at least five years after first exposure.

**§ 79.23 Proof of physical presence for the requisite period.**

(a) Proof of physical presence for the requisite period may be made in accordance with the provisions of § 79.13(a) and (b). An individual who resided or was employed on a full-time basis within the affected area is presumed to have been physically present during the time period of residence or full-time employment.

(b) For purposes of establishing eligibility under § 79.22(a)(1), the Program will presume that proof of residence at one or more addresses or proof of full-time employment at one location within the affected area on any two dates less than three years apart, during the period beginning on January 21, 1951, and ending on October 31, 1958, establishes the claimant’s presence within the affected area for the period between the two dates reflected in the documentation submitted as proof of presence.

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(c) For purposes of establishing eligibility under § 79.22(a)(1), the Program will presume that proof of residence at one or more addresses or proof of full-time employment at one location within the affected area on two dates, one of which is before January 21, 1951, and another of which is within the specified time period, establishes the claimant's presence in the affected area between January 21, 1951, and the date within the specified time period, provided the dates are not more than three years apart.

(d) For purposes of establishing eligibility under § 79.22(a)(1), the Program will presume that proof of residence at one or more addresses or proof of full-time employment at one location within the affected area on two dates, one of which is after October 31, 1958, and another of which is within the specified time period, establishes the claimant's presence in the affected area between the date within the specified time period and October 31, 1958, provided the dates are not more than three years apart.

(e) For purposes of establishing eligibility under § 79.22(a)(2), the Program will apply the presumptions contained in § 79.13(g) and (h).

### **§ 79.24 Proof of initial or first exposure after age 20 for claims under § 79.22(b)(1).**

(a) Proof of the claimant's date of birth must be established in accordance with the provisions of § 79.14(a).

(b) Absent any indication to the contrary, the Program will presume that the earliest date within the designated time period indicated on any records accepted by the Program as proof of the claimant's physical presence in the affected area was the date of initial or first exposure.

### **§ 79.25 Proof of onset of leukemia at least two years after first exposure, and proof of onset of a specified compensable disease more than five years after first exposure.**

The date of onset will be the date of diagnosis as indicated in the medical documentation accepted by the Radiation Exposure Compensation Program as proof of the claimant's specified compensable disease. The date of onset must be at least five years after the

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date of first exposure as determined under § 79.24(b). In the case of leukemia, the date of onset must be at least two years after the date of first exposure.

### **§ 79.26 Proof of medical condition.**

(a) Medical documentation is required in all cases to prove that the claimant suffered from or suffers from any specified compensable disease. Proof that the claimant contracted a specified compensable disease must be made either by using the procedure outlined in paragraph (b) of this section or by submitting the documentation required in paragraph (c) of this section. (For claims relating to primary cancer of the liver, the claimant or eligible surviving beneficiary must also submit the additional medical documentation prescribed in § 79.27.)

(b) If a claimant was diagnosed as having one of the specified compensable diseases in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah or Wyoming, the claimant or eligible surviving beneficiary need not submit any medical documentation of disease at the time the claim is filed (although medical documentation subsequently may be required). Instead, the claimant or eligible surviving beneficiary may submit with the claim an Authorization to Release Medical and Other Information, valid in the state of diagnosis, that authorizes the Program to contact the appropriate state cancer or tumor registry. The Program will accept as proof of medical condition verification from the state cancer or tumor registry that it possesses medical records or abstracts of medical records of the claimant that contain a verified diagnosis of one of the specified compensable diseases. If the designated state does not possess medical records or abstracts of medical records that contain a verified diagnosis of one of the specified compensable diseases, the Program will notify the claimant or eligible surviving beneficiary and afford that individual the opportunity to submit the written medical documentation required in paragraph (c) of this section, in accordance with the provisions of § 79.72(b).

(c) Proof that the claimant contracted a specified compensable disease may be made by the submission of one